

GENERAL WAIVER COVER SHEET

CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

SEPTEMBER 2003 AGENDA

Item No. W-3

TITLE: Request by North Sacramento Elementary School District for a waiver of <i>Education Code</i> (EC) Section 37202, equity length of time requirement to allow a full day kindergarten pilot program at Northwood Elementary School .	<input checked="checked" type="checkbox"/> ACTION <input type="checkbox"/> INFORMATION <input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC HEARING <input type="checkbox"/> CONSENT
CDSIS: 32-6-2003	

RECOMMENDATION:

The Department recommends approval of this waiver for one year with the condition that the district provide an evaluation of the full day kindergarten pilot program before a renewal is considered.

Summary of Previous State Board of Education Discussion and Action:

The State Board of Education has approved similar waivers in the past.

Summary of Key Issue(s):

The **North Sacramento Elementary School District** is requesting a waiver of EC Section 37202, the equity length of time requirement, in order to begin a full-day kindergarten pilot program at one of their eleven elementary schools, **Northwood Elementary School**. The district has 4 classes of kindergarteners at that school. Northwood has the space available to provide an extended program.

The district wants to provide an extended day kindergarten at the Northwood Elementary School, a school that enrolls a large number of English learners, while the numbers of Hmong children are decreasing, the number of Hispanic families moving into the attendance area is increasing. The additional minutes are to provide language acquisition instruction for those students entering school in the United States for the first time. Northwood School's enrolled students nearly all qualify for the free and reduced price lunch program and it has been noted that most children begin kindergarten without the benefit of previously attending preschool. The school plans to offer these children a well-rounded curriculum plus enrichment activities and age appropriate activities. One of the benefits of being able to extend the minutes is the opportunity to spend more time on enrichment activities for these children.

The school board has adopted a policy for the Early Primary Program and will follow the recommendations of EC Sections 8970-8974. The teacher's union fully supports this pilot program and the site council encourages this opportunity to enhance the instructional

program at Northwood. The district has an open enrollment policy for parents who may wish to enroll their kindergarten pupils in this pilot program.

Therefore, the department recommends approval of this waiver for one year only with the condition that the district provide an evaluation of the full day kindergarten pilot program before a renewal is considered.

Bargaining unit(s) consulted on: May 5, 2003 and May 12, 2003

Position of bargaining unit (choose only one):

☐

Neutral

☒

Support

☐

Oppose

Name of bargaining unit representative: Janet Schafer, Carol McKinley, Linda Powell, Joan Whittaker

Public hearing identified by (choose one or more):

☐

posting in a newspaper

☒

posting at each school

☐

other (specify)

Public hearing held on: June 10, 2003

Local board approval date: June 10, 2003

Advisory committee(s) consulted: May 23, 2003

Objections raised (choose one): ☒ None

☐

Objections are attached on

separate sheet

Effective dates of request: 07/01/03 – 06/31/04

Fiscal Analysis (as appropriate):

No impact.

Background Information:

Waiver request forms and supporting documents are attached to this summary.